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II. Remarks

Claims 19-33 are pending. Claims 19, 24 and 29 are amended. No new matter has been added. For at least the reasons stated below, Applicants assert that all claims are in condition for allowance.

A. The amended claims are patentably distinct over the cited art and therefore the §103 rejections should be withdrawn.

Claims 19, 21, 24, 26, 29 and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over *Buchanan* (US Patent 5,267,155) in view of *Edwards* (US Patent 5,410,551) in view of *Hobbs* (US Patent 6,523,022) in view of *Lee* (US Patent 6,535,883). Applicants respectfully oppose these rejections.

The independent claims (19, 24 and 29) have been amended to clarify the invention. These amendments improve the explanation of the correlation among the keywords, the tiers, and the data files. Figure 2 from the specification is copied on the next page. The database into which the data files are loaded is shown on the right side and is labeled as "Diamond Database". On the left side is the client PC, which is where the data files are stored. The user interface is circled on the left side of the figure. The first three data files in tier one are shown in the user interface. Each data file is assigned a keyword to describe the file or for use as a mnemonic device. The user interface also displays a type for each data file. A checkbox field in front of each keyword/data file allows the user to select the desired data files.

Pages 23 through 29 of the application describe the process of using the user interface to automate "the process of loading large volume configuration or conversion data into a database in a health care solution framework" (page 23, lines 9-12). Starting at line 29 of page 24, the specification describes how arrow 2 shows that the user "selects specific keywords within a tier [of the user interface]". The data files are formatted using the Excel-based DMT (data management template). Or the data files can also be formatted into tab-delimited or pipe-delimited (i.e., "|") files.

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To describe the functionality shown in figure 2, the independent claims have been amended to include, *inter alia*:

- "(b) selecting a plurality of user-selected keywords from a user interface, wherein each keyword is associated to a data file name and a data type, also wherein the plurality of keywords are arranged in the user interface in a tier structure such that keywords in a first tier are associated to data files that must be loaded into the database before data files associated to a second tier are loaded into the database;
- (c) receiving from one of the user stations a plurality of user input data files that are associated to the selected plurality of keywords;
- (d) selecting a data management template corresponding to the keywords, wherein the data management template organizes the data files to be loaded into the database"

The Examiner has cited Hobbs and Buchanan for their alleged teachings in keywords and templates. Neither of these references, nor the combination of the two, suggest or teach these amended elements of the independent claims. Hobbs and Buchanan do not teach a user-interface like the one shown in figure 2, in which data files are associated to keywords and where the keywords are organized into a hierarchy of tiers. For at least these reasons, Applicants believe the claims are allowable.

Applicants maintain that the Examiner has failed to provide a *prima facie* case of obviousness by combining the four references Lee, Buchanan, Edwards and Hobbs. In light of the amendments to the claims, however, Applicants do not need to further argue the point at this time. Applicants reserve the right to do so in subsequent communications.

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B. Summary

Applicants submit that all pending claims are allowable over the art of record and respectfully requests that a Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. In the event a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner may reach the undersigned at 612-607-7508. If any fees are due in connection with the filing of this paper, then the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees including fees for any extension of time, to Deposit Account No. 50-1901 (Docket 060021-340501).

Respectfully submitted,



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